

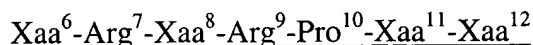


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The melanocortin receptor antagonist as in any one of claims 6 and 8, ~~claim 3~~ wherein the peptide is amidated at the C-terminus.

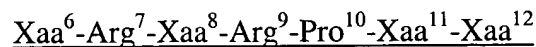
Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A melanocortin receptor antagonist selective for the MCR-1 receptor, the antagonist comprising a peptide having formula:



where Xaa<sup>6</sup> is Arg or D-Arg, Ala or D-Ala, Xaa<sup>8</sup> is Ile or Ala, Xaa<sup>11</sup> is Lys or D-Lys, and Xaa<sup>12</sup> is amidated Leu, D-Leu, or Ala, and the Arg in the ninth position may be in the D-Arg stereoconfiguration, and wherein the peptide is anisoylated at the N-terminus, and can have an amidated carboxyl terminus.  
~~The melanocortin receptor antagonist as in claim 3 wherein the peptide is anisoylated at the N-terminus.~~

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A composition comprising the ~~The~~ melanocortin receptor antagonist as in any one of claims 5, 6, or 8, ~~claim 3~~ wherein the peptide is encapsulated in a liposome.  
~~liposomes.~~

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A melanocortin receptor antagonist selective for the MCR-1 receptor, the antagonist comprising a peptide having formula:



where Xaa<sup>6</sup> is D-Arg, Xaa<sup>8</sup> is Ile, Xaa<sup>11</sup> D-Lys, and Xaa<sup>12</sup> is D-Leu  
~~The melanocortin receptor antagonist as in claim 3, wherein the peptide is p-anisoyl-[D-Arg<sup>6,9</sup>, D-Lys<sup>11</sup>, D-Leu<sup>12</sup>] dynorphin A(6-12)-NH<sub>2</sub>.~~

Claims 9-10 (Canceled).